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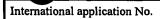
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 0000053514 FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of Interpretation Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPI			cation of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)				
International application No. PCT/EP2003/004604	International filing date (day/r 02 May 2003 (02.05		Priority date (day/month/year) 13 May 2002 (13.05.2002)				
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C08G 18/08							
Applicant	BASF AKTIENGESELI	LSCHAFT					
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	5 sheets, includi	ng this cover s	sheet.				
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).							
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.							
3. This report contains indications rela	ating to the following items:						
I Basis of the report							
II Priority	II Priority						
III Non-establishment	of opinion with regard to novel	y, inventive st	ep and industrial applicability				
IV Lack of unity of in	vention						
V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement							
VI Certain documents cited							
VII Certain defects in t	VII Certain defects in the international application						
VIII Certain observations on the international application							
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report					
17 September 2003 (17.09.2003)		16 F	ebruary 2004 (16.02.2004)				
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Autho	orized officer					
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.					

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)

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PCT/EP2003/004604

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I. Basis of the report						
With regard to the elements of the international application:						
	the inte	rnational application as originally filed				
$\overline{\boxtimes}$	the desc	cription:	i			
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the The	the lar the lar the lar the lar or 55.	nguage of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Inguage of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). Inguage of the translation furnished for the purposes of international prelimina	which is: Rule 23.1(b)). ry examination (under Rule 55.2 and/			
	conta	ined in the international application in written form.				
	filed	together with the international application in computer readable form.				
	furnis	shed subsequently to this Authority in written form.				
<u> </u>	furnis	shed subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.				
		statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does national application as filed has been furnished.	ot go beyond the disclosure in the			
-		statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identic furnished.	al to the written sequence listing has			
4.	The a	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:				
1	H	the description, pages				
	H	the claims, Nos.				
į	Ш	the drawings, sheets/fig				
5.	This r	report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, and the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**	since they have been considered to go			
* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17). ***Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.						
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Interna	application No.
PCT/EP	03/04604

v.	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement					
1.	Statement					
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-14	YES		
		Claims		NO		
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-14	YES		
		Claims		NO		
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-14	YES		
		Claims		NO		

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP1072652 A

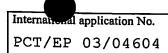
Document D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art, discloses a dispersion produced from 0.125 mol polyester polyol, 0.125 mol dimethylolpropionic acid, 0.5 mol dicyclohexylmethane 4,4'-diisocyanate, 0.125 mol 1,4-butanediol and 0.08 mol isophorone diamine with the simultaneous addition of 0.02 mol ammonia solution (example 4, column 10, line 54 to column 11, line 22). The dispersed polyurethane particles have a particle size of 20-1000 nm (column 8, lines 7 to 8). Also disclosed are coating materials containing the claimed dispersion (claim 1) and their use as paints and coatings for any type of substrate (claim 5 and column 3, lines 4 to 16).

Claim 1 differs from D1 in that the dispersed polyurethane particles have a particle size of 2-15 μm .

Claim 1 is therefore novel over D1 (PCT Article 33(2)).

The applicant shows that the claimed coatings, when applied to leather, have a lower gloss, retain their hue and exhibit

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only minimal alteration when back-polished, and have good mechanical properties.

The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be seen as that of providing coatings for leather that exhibit the aforementioned properties.

Neither D1 nor any of the other documents cited in the international search report deal with the back-polishing of coatings. It is therefore not obvious to a person skilled in the art that increasing the size of the particles in the dispersions according to D1 will result in greater resistance to back-polishing.

The subject matter of claim 1 therefore involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

The amendments that were submitted are considered admissible (PCT Article 34(2)(b)).